

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	ALMANAC
					Yesterday's High ..... 55 Yesterday's Low ..... 45 Record High ..... 79 in 1950 Record Low ..... 18 in 1968
Scattered Rain	Mostly Sunny	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Scattered Rain	SUN & MOON
Precip Chance: 65%	Precip Chance: 20%	Precip Chance: 5%	Precip Chance: 5%	Precip Chance: 45%	Sunrise ..... 7:18 a.m. Sunset ..... 5:39 p.m.
53° 33°	45° 25°	46° 24°	45° 34°	48° 37°	Full Last New First
					 1/28 2/4 2/11 2/19

**GOOD MORNING** The Sanford Herald appreciates all of its readers. Today, we'd like to thank W. O. Batchelor of Olivia for subscribing.

# The Sanford Herald

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## DNA helps identify remains found in 2005

**BY NANCY MCCLEARY**  
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LILLINGTON — In 2005, a group of boys playing near a burned, abandoned home on Calvin Road in Cameron spotted what appeared to be skeletal remains in the wreckage of a years old fire.

Now, 16 years later, the remains have been identified as 24-year-old Michael Joseph Allen Baker whose family reported him missing to the Sanford Police Department in 2007, according to John Hawley a retired Harnett County sheriff's detective who now

helps the sheriff's office with cold case investigations.

The identification was made through the efforts of the North Carolina Cold Case Initiative, a group that uses anthropology, genealogy and investigation to give a name to unidentified remains. The

group is led by Dr. Ann Ross, a forensic anthropologist on the faculty of N.C. State University, who received a grant in 2019 to fund the work. Joining her is Leslie Kaufman, a forensic genealogist, who uses DNA to trace family links.

The group is working to identify 13 remains across North Carolina. Baker is their first success, according to Hawley

"It was a team effort," Hawley said. "Without the

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San-Lee Middle School Principal Betsy Bridges, left, and Assistant Principal Joanna Perkins dress as 100-year-olds Tuesday to celebrate the 100th day of school.

## Teachers, students celebrate 100 days of school

**BY JASMINE GALLUP**  
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After months of mask-wearing and safety mandates, San-Lee Middle School teachers tried to inject some levity into classrooms Tuesday with a celebration of the 100th day of school.

"I feel like we've been in school 100 years, not 100 days," Assistant Principal Joanna Perkins said with a laugh as she hauled a walker down the hallway.

Perkins, along with Principal Betsy

Bridges, dressed as a 100-year-old woman Tuesday to celebrate making it more than halfway through the school year. And although Perkins looked the part, complete with a nightgown, bathrobe and gray hair, her energy was unstoppable.

"It's a fun thing to celebrate in the middle of winter," Perkins said. "We pretty much do any crazy thing we can think of in these long winter months ... (to get) everybody smiling and wanting to be here. In one room,

I said, 'I got my (COVID-19) vaccine! I was first in line because I'm 100. I got put to the front!'"

Traditionally, students also dress up as 100-year-old senior citizens or 100-day-old babies to recognize the milestone. In the age of virtual learning, however, costumes were scarce.

For Perkins, that just made the day more important than ever. With so many limitations placed on teachers

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## Man sought in killing

**BY THE SANFORD HERALD**

LILLINGTON — Warrants were issued Tuesday in a fatal Spring Lake shooting early Sunday in which a man with ties to Sanford was killed and another man injured.



James Lee Jones Jr.

James Lee Jones Jr., 38, of Spring Lake, is being sought on charges of murder, assault with a deadly weapon, possession of a firearm by a felon and six counts of assault with a deadly weapon with minors present.

Jones is charged in the 12:40 a.m. killing of Albert Charles Parisi Jr., 31, and the injury of Tyshawn Robert Viera, 30, at 278 Connie Court near McKay Street and Ray Road in Spring Lake. Parisi was pronounced dead at the scene. Viera was taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital with an apparent gunshot wound to the abdomen, according to dispatch radio traffic. The news release lists Parisi's address as Dimaggio Drive in Spring Lake, but an obituary indicates he is from Sanford.

Jones, whose address was not given, goes by the names

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## At session start, state legislators pitch consensus with Cooper

**BY GARY D. ROBERTSON**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALEIGH — The North Carolina General Assembly session begins in earnest Wednesday with Republican majorities still in place after the November election. And reelected Gov. Roy Cooper still has enough Democratic allies there to uphold his vetoes when they're united.

When this same

dynamic began in 2019, agenda got sidelined as House Speaker Tim well.



Gov. Roy Cooper

Heading into this next two-year session, all three politicians don't want to go through that again.

In separate interviews with The Associated Press, they've expressed a commitment to seeking consensus on big items, in par-

ticular those related to COVID-19, including aid to struggling businesses and K-12 students falling behind while learning from home.

"The voters chose divided government. That's where we are. And so we will have to govern accordingly," Moore said. "There's no use in having a budget impasse where we don't get anything else done because of that. Because

there's so many things so many good ways we can spend the money and so many needs out there."

Moore said overwhelming bipartisan support in 2020 for bills that meted out \$3.6 billion in coronavirus funds from the federal government signals more bipartisanship early this year as lawmakers distribute another tranche of COVID-

19 funds. And locating money for expanded rural broadband coverage also should be well received.

Berger and Cooper have said they've talked many times since the election about working to find areas of agreement. Cooper said he anticipates a new way to approach the state budget that relies on

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### OBITUARIES

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